



WTLU-CD, Lynchburg, VA

ISSUES/PROGRAMS QUARTERLY REPORT

January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013

WTLU-CD

Lynchburg, Virginia

April 9, 2013

Prepared by: Sandra Wagner
General Manager

Issue: Gun Control

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-8-13 @ 6:30pm

2:30
The President has made it clear that will take action against guns. That has nervous Americans flocking to gun shows to stock up before its too late. Vice-President Biden is leading the charge as Obama has put him in charge of the special gun-control task force. Some lawmakers are calling for tougher gun laws. So far, Obama is calling for universal background checks and tracking movement and sale of weapons thru a national database. Americans are fearing their 2nd Amendment rights will be taken away. The FBI last year conducted 2.8-million background checks.

Air Date and Time: 1-9-13 @ 6:30pm

2:15
The NRA and the White House will square off tomorrow on the issue of gun control. Vice-President Joe Biden met with survivors and relatives of those caught in mass shootings and massacres. Obama has tasked Biden and Congress for coming up with new rules regarding gun control by the end of this year. But opponents of Obama and his administration say there is already enough gun control laws on the books.

Air Date and Time: 1-10-13 @ 6:30pm

2:01
The Vice-President will hand the President a number of suggestions on curbing gun violence. In the meantime, Joe Biden continues to have meetings with dozens of groups having anything to do with the issue. Today he met with the NRA, but said he has not come to any conclusions. Biden said that “total, universal background checks” will be strongly suggested.

Air Date and Time: 1-11-13 @ 6:30pm

4:08
The Vice-President met with video gaming companies to talking about video game violence. This comes after Joe Biden met with the NRA to discuss the gun control issue. President of NRA, David Keene says everything hinges on 2nd Amendment rights to keep and bear arms. Biden will present his findings to Obama on Tuesday. The proposal will also include mental health and violence on TV. Mark Walters, host of Armed American Radio, says there were more deaths by bludgeoning with a hammer than shooting deaths last year.

Air Date and Time: 1-14-13 @ 6:30pm

2:13
Vice-President Joe Biden is about to present his findings and recommendations about gun violence to the President. But as he does, Americans are stocking up on guns. The National Rifle Association and key lawmakers in Congress are prepared to fight any threats against the 2nd Amendment. Congress said that it will not pass the gun control laws the President is seeking to enact. The president of the NRA, David Keene says the people who are mental unfit to own firearms be put on the list to prevent them from obtaining assault rifles. Keene says they aren't currently doing that. Senator Rand Paul says Obama is trying to bypass the constitution and Congress, essentially acting like a king.

Air Date and Time: 1-15-13 @ 6:30pm

1:07
The President is reviewing the Vice-President's report and recommendations on gun control. Joe Biden's proposal, he says, will reduce gun violence; stronger background checks, a ban on the purchase of assault rifles, and restrictions on high capacity magazines and gun clips top the list. Gun sales have been up across the U.S. Obama says responsible gun owners need not fear, and says if necessary, he will use his executive powers to enable the bill/bills.

Issue: Gun Control cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-16-13 @ 6:30pm

2:46

True to his word, the President signs 23 executive orders on gun control. He says that 900 people have been killed in the month past following the Sandy Hook School shooting. Obama bypassed Congress and signed the proposals into law. He says the orders will strengthen background check requirements and help schools hire more resource officers. He's also enlisting the CDC and other health organizations to research what causes gun violence, including possible links to video game violence. The bill proposes banning sales of assault rifles, limit ammunition magazines to 10 rounds, and close the "gun show loophole."

4:37

Family Research Council member and author, Ken Klukowski says the President spun the unspoken idea that if we the people or legislators don't agree with him, that we have selfish motives and self-serving gains. Klukowski says Obama's executive orders do not affect the general public, only his immediate staff. The federal government cannot have a national gun registry of gun owners because it is unconstitutional.

Air Date and Time: 1-17-13 @ 6:30pm

2:23

The President proposed sweeping changes to America's gun laws and policies on Wednesday, which could turn out to be the biggest debate over gun control in decades. Gun advocates vow to fight on every level. Obama signed 23 executive orders that he says will protect our children. Critics say it is an assault on the 2nd Amendment and an executive over reach. The Republican National Committee Chair, Reince Priebus said in a statement "the President's series of gun control measures amount to an executive power grab that may please his political base, but will not solve the problem at hand." Some States are already pushing back against the President's orders.

3:35

Assault weapons have been the focus of debate on gun control. But what exactly is an assault weapon? Most think it's a machine gun or a tommy gun. But an assault weapon has a 3 round burst or auto-mag and they are extremely difficult to obtain. But anyone can get their hands on a semi-automatic pistol or rifle. The deadliest massacre in history was at Virginia Tech, and the weapons used were 2 automatic pistols.

Air Date and Time: 1-21-13 @ 6:30pm

1:58

Even before the inauguration, the President has been involved in the major political battle over gun control. Polls show that some of his goals and ideas are acceptable, but he is also running into some opposition with lobbyists and some lawmakers. Over this past weekend, people from across 49 states gathered at "guns across the nation" rallies. Since the Sandy Hook School massacre, Obama has now taken on the issue of gun control to protect America's children. Advocates say his plan is not the way to prevent gun violence. Texas Senator Cruz says that Obama's plan is not for reform, it is to a sway the liberal agenda.

:18

While the Obama Administration works to introduce the gun control laws, Wyoming, Texas, and Virginia will be working on bills of their own that would make any new gun control laws unconstitutional.

Air Date and Time: 1-24-13 @ 6:30pm

:29

Democratic lawmakers unveiled a new gun control measure before Congress today. The measure would reinstate a ban on assault weapons, outlaw the sale of select specialty firearms, and ban the sale of ammunition magazines that have more than 10 rounds. The measure might not get past the House nor get the votes it needs from the Senate.

Issue: Gun Control cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-30-13 @ 6:30pm

2:04
Both sides of the gun debate law were on Capital Hill today. The Senate Judiciary Committee held hearings on what the nation should do to end gun violence. Unscheduled visitor to the hearings, former Congresswoman, Gabrielle Gifford gave a short testimony, but had the biggest impact, calling for tighter gun control. Gifford was seriously injured in a mass shoot at and Arizona mall in January 2011. NRA President, Wayne LaPierre led a contingents of gun control opponents who say the proposed laws violate our 2nd Amendment Rights. The gun control laws could put women at a disadvantage when faced with gun-toting men say the women's advocate groups. Others say the real issue is not more gun control, but getting people off the street who are prone to violent mental instability.

:15
A number of Americans polled say politicians are exploiting the Sandy Hook massacre for political gain. More than half surveyed say assault weapons should be legal; 44-percent say they should be banned.

\Air Date and Time: 2-4-13 @ 6:30pm

:56
The President is continuing his campaign to ban the use of high-powered firearms. Obama took his gun control campaign to Minneapolis today, the city that has had success curbing gun violence. Obama is proposing banning the buying and selling of assault rifles and high capacity ammunition magazines. He is also pushing for tougher background checks. He's asking Americans to put pressure on lawmakers to get these new laws passed.

Air Date and Time: 2-19-13 6:30pm

:37
The Newtown shooting has been the rallying cry for new gun control laws. Colorado Senate narrowly passed 4 bills. One bill limits the amount of rounds in a magazine that one can purchase and another measure requires stricter background checks. Another measure bans concealed weapons on college campuses and stadiums.

:57
Adam Lanza killed 20 children and 6 adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December. Investigators say that Lanza had an obsession with violent video games and that he also wanted to surpass the body count that Norwegian Anders Breivik who murdered 77 people in 2001. Lanza chose Sandy Hook because of its location and the number of people that was in close proximity to one another. Officials say he probably lived out fantasies thru violent video games.

Air Date and Time: 2-8-13 @ 6:30pm

1:21
With the focus turned toward more gun control, there is now a shortage on ammunition, which makes it harder for law enforcement to do their job. They are having a difficult time locating the ammunition for their weapons. Forty caliber bullets are the kind most often utilized by law enforcement for training, costing about 30-dollars for 50 rounds in a box. But in the wake of the Newtown shooting, the demand went up and so did the price due to low supply.

Issue: Cyber Attacks and Identity Theft

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-13-13 @ 6:30pm

:38
Obama will sign the plan that strengthens America's online and network community on Friday. The plan calls on industry leaders to come up with voluntary new ways to protect this nation's information, and also a way to share security with other companies.

Issue: Cyber Attacks and Identity Theft cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-20-13 6:30pm

2:04

There's a rise in cyber attacks in America. The brazen attacks are coming from China. Dozens of reports say that China is involved in thousands of attacks. Now the White House says there will be consequences. The Chinese government has a building on the outskirts of Shanghai, labeled Unit 6139, where English speaking/writing Chinese are stealing America's corporate information and breaking into military sites. They are targeting water treatment plants, transportation, and our food supply. But the main concern is over the country's power supply grid. Other targets include Lockheed Martin, makers of jet fighter airplanes, and numerous corporate giants such as Coca Cola. Hours after the reports were released, China called the accusations "groundless". The White House announced today that fines and trade sanctions will be implemented on China and other countries who engage in cyberattacks.

:30

A study shows that 12.6-million people were victims of identity theft, which translates into 1 in 20 are affected. The jump in ID theft is due to new account fraud with it's 2nd highest total since the feds started tracking ID theft. A record 13.9-million people affect was set in 2009.

:44

Tim Berry of White Canvas Group says people steal ID's because they get a thrill out of it and another reason, money. He says the Chinese are advancing the hacking to steal secrets from companies that are critical to our infrastructure.

Air Date and Time: 3-21-2013 @ 6:30pm

4:08

Social media outlets, like Facebook and Twitter, are giving life to the old con game of targeting the senior citizens. In some cases, the crooks end up with the entire savings of the senior citizens. It's being called the "Grandparent Scam". The Merricks are the only survivors of their families from the Holocaust so to them, family is so important. The scammers establish credibility, emergency, secrecy, and then exploit the grandparents desire to help their grandchildren. Consumer Affairs says never rush to wire money anywhere and to ask many questions. The Merricks say to ask lots of questions of the caller to get a clear picture of the caller and the request.

Issue: Fiscal Cliff, Budget Cuts, and Taxes

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-1-13 @ 6:30pm

2:14

The Senate finally reached a deal to prevent the U.S. from falling over the fiscal cliff. The deal allows taxes to increase on those earning 450-thousaand a year. Now the House has to approve the deal. It would also extend unemployment insurance for another year, while patching up a host of other expiring provisions and delaying automatic spending cuts for two months. Those cuts, which would hit defense heavily, will instead be offset with a blend of tax increases and other spending cuts. Americans will still see a 2-point increase this month in their Social Security tax, as Congress did not opt to extend that payroll tax holiday. Both sides of the aisle ultimately don't like the deal struck.

Air Date and Time: 1-2-13 @ 6:30pm

3:02

Lawmakers struck a last minute deal last night to keep Americans from tumbling off the fiscal cliff. House GOP members reluctantly passed the Senate approved bill. Battles over spending and debt are expect in just a few months. Taxes will go up 2-percent for a majority of Americans due to an expiration of the social security tax reduction. 77-percent of Americans will still pay higher federal taxes in 2013.

Issue: Fiscal Cliff, Budget Cuts, and Taxes cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-2-13 @ 6:30pm

4:09

Bill Frezza with the Boston-based venture capitalist Competitive Enterprise Institute says nothing was solved for the economy, the budget deficit, or ease on the American people. He believes things will continue to get worse with the economy at an accelerated rate. Frezza says lawmakers want to give away money to their constituents, not roll in spending which is what will help this economy grow. The economy is slowly running down with predictions of increased inflation and loss of economic growth at the end of this year.

Air Date and Time: 1-7-13 @ 6:30pm

1:45

Lawmakers are worlds apart for a solution to the fiscal crisis. Republicans say they won't talk taxes and the Democrats won't either on spending cuts. By the end of next month, the Treasury will lose the power to borrow more to pay America's bill. Automatic spending cuts will go into effect March 1st. If the Treasury runs out of options to cover the nation's debt, it could default on government loans unless Congress raises the debt ceiling, which could trigger a global recession.

Air Date and Time: 1-23-13 @ 6:30pm

:24

House Republicans passed a plan to prevent a potential debt crisis. Republicans are giving up spending cuts in exchange for an increase in the government's borrowing cap. The legislation will give the government enough leeway to meet 3 more months worth of obligations and avoid a first time ever default. Democrats don't like the plan but the White House will accept it.

Air Date and Time: 1-30-13 @ 6:30pm

:25

The National Debt is reaching dangerously high levels that could threaten America's economy in the future. The Peter G. Peterson Foundation, a budget watchdog group, says the national debt could reach 200-percent of the economy. That kind of debt is hard to pay back without heavy taxes or possible inflation.

Air Date and Time: 2-4-13 @ 6:30pm

:40

The President and Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid say Washington needs more taxes as part of a plan to cut the budget deficit. Obama says he can trim the budget with "smart spending cuts". Reid discussed in an interview that it can only be done with more taxes. Republicans may not go for this new deal, compromising already on the raise in income taxes.

Air Date and Time: 2-6-13 @ 6:30pm

1:06

The President is trying to avoid automatic spending cuts that are set to go into effect on March 1st unless the deficit is cut. The cuts would hit the military and domestic programs. Obama wants Congress to come up with a short term plan to reduce the deficit with higher taxes. On the growing debt concern, the Congressional Budget Office stated that the "spending on the health care and retirement programs will keep driving the national debt higher." And that "seven million Americans will lose their health care coverage at work under ObamaCare."

Air Date and Time: 2-14-13 @ 6:30pm

2:26

Charitable organizations representatives stood before Congress to plead with them not to cut tax breaks to charitable givers. Obama keeps proposing limits on the charitable deductions in an effort to cut off tax breaks for the rich. But the only cutting off will be the charity to people who really need it. "It's really not a tax on the wealthy," says Brian Gallagher, United Way Worldwide, "but a transfer of money to the government rather than non-profits." In a nation that gives over 3-billion a year to charities, it could have a devastating affect.

Issue: Fiscal Cliff, Budget Cuts, and Taxes cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-19-13 6:30pm

1:58
On March 1st, the federal spending gets slashed unless Congress and the President work together to make careful cuts to reduce the deficit. First responders are the first to lose their jobs due to arbitrary budget cuts called the “sequester cuts” that are set to take place. The President said that members of Congress are “acting like butchers”. Some lawmakers are saying that the budget cuts are too severe for the weak economy. It all boils down to taxes, and the President already got them when the GOP negotiated with Democrats when the fiscal cliff was looming.

2:12
President of Less Government, Seton Motley says that President Obama campaigned on tax increases on the upper 1 to 2-percent of the wealthy. Now he’s proposing more taxes to close the tax loopholes, cuts to our military, and the sequester cuts are just a drop in the bucket when compared to the overall budget. Motley says that Obama and his office are trying to create a crisis where there is none. He says that the President is governing to splinter the Republican Party, in other words trying to give the GOP a black eye and set them to fighting amongst themselves.

Air Date and Time: 2-22-13 6:30pm

:30
President Obama called House Speaker John Boehner and Senate Republican Leader Mitch Michonal in to talk about the spending cuts, called “sequestration”, are set to go into effect on March 1st. The 85-billion dollars in cuts will hit the military and some domestic programs. The President blames the Republicans, but some experts are putting some of the blame on the Obama Administration. Democrats want more taxes, but Republicans say they have already gotten the tax increase, now it’s time for spending cuts.

Air Date and Time: 2-22-13 6:30pm

1:37
Former Defense Department Analyst who is now with the American Enterprise Institute, Phillip Lohaus says the “sequestorian cuts” will affect the military’s readiness in situations that demand immediate action and this will also affect the military support positions back in the states. These cuts will not affect the independent contractors that have contracts already in place with the military, just the new ones that come about. But some lawmakers will probably bring up some contracts for review and that’s when the cuts could take place. He says the sledgehammer effect of these cuts is the most dangerous to defense.

Air Date and Time: 2-25-13 6:30pm

2:16
There are only 4 more days until the automatic spending cuts kick in. The White House says the cuts will affect people all across the nation. Congress must trim 2 and a half percent from the federal budget by Friday. If a deal is not made, 85-billion in cuts will be put into place. States will also be affected. The state-by-state sequester cuts report that Virginia will see 90-thousand civilian Dept. of Defense employees furloughed; Ohio would have \$25.1-million in cuts to primary and secondary education; Arizona would see \$1-million in funds that provide meals for seniors; Washington State could lose some \$59-million in funding and grants. Republicans in a campaign add paint the cuts from the White House as extreme. The goal though is to save a trillion dollars in spending.

Issue: Economic Recovery & Unemployment

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-2-13 @ 6:30pm

3:22

Markets are celebrating the deal in Washington on the fiscal cliff, but is it good for the economy in the long term? Michael Neeham, CEO Heritage Action, says that increased taxes of the wealthy 2-percent won't be the answer to help the U.S. economy; reduced spending is the way to help the economy. Some say that taxing the wealthy is a good thing. Others say the wealthy of the top 2-percent are business owners and increasing taxes would hurt jobs and job growth, which is the American economy.

Air Date and Time: 1-11-13 @ 6:30pm

4:03

Many economists say America is on the same road that led many European nations to ruin. Some are blaming Obama for our high taxes and high spending, and that the U.S. could be turning into a France-like nation, with France's bloated welfare state which has been dubbed a ticking time bomb. Even France's richest are leaving with France having the lowest number of wealthy per capita in Western Europe.

Air Date and Time: 1-17-13 @ 6:30pm

:26

Economic growth picked up last month with Christmas sales giving it a boost. The Fed report is still showing the housing crisis rising across the nation. Economists are saying the growth will be the same this year as it was the last.

Air Date and Time: 1-25-13 @ 6:30pm

:39

A recent Bloomberg survey of economists say that the U.S. economy will grow between 2 and 2 ½ percent this next year. At the same time, analysts say that the stock market is growing. IBM and Google pushed the stock market to a 5-year high this week. Another report says that new home sales were up since 2009. But there is still the growing concern about the economy. Senator Ted Cruz of Texas says in the last 4 years under the Obama Administration the economy has grown only 4-percent, growing at a rate of 1.5-percent a year; that's less than the historical average since WWII has been 3.3-percent.

2:35

Financial Editor, Drew Parkhill says the economy is weak despite what some say. He also says that this is the most pathetic recovery after a recession since the Depression in the 1930's. Unemployment is actually higher than what has been reported since the numbers don't reflect those who have stopped looking. The stock market will always bounce back because businesses will always be looking to earn more money. Parkhill says to hold on because the long-term benefits will pay off. He says the stock market will outperform gold.

Air Date and Time: 2-1-13 @ 6:30pm

:32

The jobless rate picked up last month. The January unemployment rate came in at 7.9-percent. The economy added 157-thousand jobs last month. Analyst say the economy will grow at a slow to moderate rate for 2013.

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The President has decided to let the jobs council to expire even though 12-million Americans are still without jobs. Obama created the council 2 years ago when the jobless rate hovered at 9-percent. Both parties agree that unemployment is still too high.

Issue: Economic Recovery & Unemployment cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-13-13 @ 6:30pm

3:00

In response to the President's speech, Sen. Marco Rubio says the free enterprise system is the source of middle class prosperity, but Obama thinks it's the government, which is a pretty far departure from what former Presidents believed. Rubio says that lawmakers need to keep talking about it until the American people can make the connection. He said that Obama doesn't understand the danger in the deficit. The national debt needs to be brought down or stabilized and the only solution to that problem the combination of rapid economic growth and stabilizing our spending in the coming years, that is the only way, and there is no tax increase that can help us do that.

Air Date and Time: 2-15-13 @ 6:30pm

3:04

The President set a goal to create 1-million manufacturing jobs during his 2nd term. It's still a drop in the bucket when you consider America has lost over 6-million jobs in the last decade.

Air Date and Time: 2-15-13 @ 6:30pm

2:07

President Obama has proposed to raise the federal minimum wage from 7.25 per hour to 9-dollars per hour. Critics say that it would hurt small business and the economy, saying businesses wouldn't be able to hire as many workers thus increasing unemployment. Obama says the raise in the minimum wage would boost income for some 15-million Americans, lifting most out of poverty. Unemployment rates for the youth went to 15-percent when the first round of wage increases were enacted in 2007. And in 2013 the rate stands at 24-percent.

Air Date and Time: 2-26-13 6:30pm

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Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernaki tells Congress that the low-interest rate policies are providing necessary support to an economy that is suffering from high unemployment. Bernaki said today that they will continue to keep borrowing costs low. He says he does acknowledge the aggressive plan the Feds have to buy 85-billion-dollars a month in treasury and mortgage bonds could spark inflation can make investors uneasy. Those risks are contained for now, and urges Congress to replace the automatic spending cuts set to kick in Friday with more gradual spending cuts.

Air Date and Time: 3-5-2013 @ 6:30p

2:01

A history making high on Wall Street saw the Dow Jones rise 126 points to close up Tuesday at 14,254, which tops the previous high by 89 points in October of 2007. The surge was brought on by a number of factors including a recovery in the housing market, an increase in China's strong economic growth funds and a jump in European retail sales. It was pushed up even more when it was reported that the service sector was strong and making gains. It also doubled its record low almost 4-years ago, gaining 118-percent since then. But some analysts ask if we can trust this market surge. The Economy is slowly growing, businesses are making money, interest rates and inflation are still very low, and a great deal of money that has not gone back into stocks yet could be the key factors that see the market flourish.

3:43

Bill Frezza with the Competitive Enterprise Institute in Boston says that the market surge is more like a monetary illusion if you take a look at the Dow price in gold for example, you would see that we are back to the 1980's gains. People need to be cautious on how they interpret this stuff. The market has completely discounted any talk about the sequester cuts and has had no impact on people's expectations. Frezza says that the President cannot afford to let the American people believe that the government can't stop growing. Frezza gives example of places where the government should be cutting and says that the Obama Administration wants to keep the American people from knowing what the other hand is doing. The stock market on the other hand will only go up until it.

Issue: Economic Recovery & Unemployment cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-8-2013 @ 6:30pm

:21

The U.S. Jobs Report says that 236-thousand jobs were added, reducing the rate from 7.9- percent in Jan. to 7.7- percent in Feb. which is the lowest level in 4-years. More home and automobile sales are up spurring on the jobs growth and economic growth.

Issue: Credit Card Surcharge

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-29-13 @ 6:30pm

:55

Forty U.S. states including Virginia are allowing a surcharge fee of up to 4-percent every time you use your credit card. Businesses are now allowed to pass that fee onto the consumer. Ten states have banned the surcharge. Walmart says they will absorb the surcharge rather than pass it to the consumer.

Issue: Gasoline Prices

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-5-13 @ 6:30pm

:34

The price of gasoline is up 18 cents to \$3.54 per gallon in just this last week; it's the biggest weekly increase in 2 years. Analysts say the economy is strong again and that is the reason for the climb. The barrel price for oil is up again to almost a hundred dollars.

Air Date and Time: 2-18-13 6:30pm

:13

Gas prices went up 12-cents last week, making it a 42-cent increase in the last month. Economist say the price for crude oil has gone up, with predictions of high prices for spring. That means that we could see \$4 a gallon by May.

Air Date and Time: 2-19-13 6:30pm

2:04

Gas prices are at a 4th month rise to an average nationwide of \$3.79 per gallon. Experts are saying that the prices will continue for the next few months, up to possibly \$4 per gallon and then round off. Some of the causes of high gas prices are refineries are switching from winter to summer fuel which is more expensive to produce, refineries are closing, and there is an increase in demand. Crude oil prices are also up. Canada has a surplus of crude, and if the pipeline is approved, then we will see lower prices at the pumps.

Issue: Reduced USPS Deliveries

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-6-13 @ 6:30pm

:28

No more mail on Saturday. The struggling U.S. Postal Service plans to stop Saturday delivery to trim cost. The plan is expected to begin in August and will save the USPS 2-billion dollars a year. Package delivery will continue 6 days a week.

Issue: Education

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-14-13 @ 6:30pm

1:35

The President took up the issue of education today to provide universal pre-school to all children in the nation from low-income families. He also wants to increase the Head Start program to include toddlers and infants. The program would be financed with state dollars and federal matching dollars if a community could not afford to provide the program. But critics say states and private program could/should be able to take the monies and run the program more efficiently than the federal government. The President's plan requires Congress' approval.

2:18

Regent University President Dr. Carlos Campo weighs in on the issue of providing education to pre-school age children. Obama's Achievement Gap plan really should start after kindergarten because that's when the gap beings to be seen, says Campo. The program has its good and bad features, including how will the program be funded, how will the funds be spent, and is this government overreach? Campo says he thinks parents should be involved in the decisions that are being made about their children.

Issue: Winter Weather

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-5-2013 @ 6:30p

1:34

A winter storm continues to barrel thru the Heartland on its path to the Mid-Atlantic. The nation's capitol and 19 other states are in its path. For some areas, it could be the biggest snowfall of the season. From Montana to Virginia, those areas will be under winter watches and warnings

Air Date and Time: 3-25-2013 @ 6:30pm

:44

Even though the calendars say it's spring, winter doesn't want to give up just yet. A winter storm enveloped the Central states, as well as parts of Virginia and Washington DC. Residents as far west as Colorado are still digging out. Police say that weather is probably to blame for 2 deaths, 1 in Missouri, the other in Kansas. Winter weather watches and warnings were issued across 15 states.

Issue: Health Care

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-9-13 @ 6:30pm

:41

Part of ObamaCare has been quietly repealed. Congress called it the Class Act. It was basically an entitlement that was "so poorly designed that one of its own administrators warned Congress in 2011 that the program could collapse." Meanwhile, 5 new taxes from the ObamaCare will kick in - the Medical Device Tax - which will raise health care costs.

Air Date and Time: 1-17-13 @ 6:30pm

:31

Some influential CEO's are asking lawmakers to raise the age for Social Security and Medicare benefits. The group, Business Roundtable, plans propose to Congress to raise the age to 70 and partially privatize health care insurance benefits. The groups says it would protect those 55 or older from cuts and would allow them to enroll in a public or private plan.

Issue: Health Care cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-4-13 @ 6:30pm

1:53

January 2014 is when the bulk of ObamaCare takes affect. Dr. Betsy McCaughey has read and studied the over 500-page law on ObamaCare. She says that millions will lose the healthcare they get from their employers because the mandate will cost double of what they are willing to pay. The fines to not comply with mandate are cheaper than the mandate itself. Seniors would suffer the most under ObamaCare.

Issue: Immigration Reform

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-18-13 6:30pm

2:06

President Obama's plan for immigration reform was leaked Saturday to USA Today. The plan would create a Visa for illegal immigrants and it would let them become legal residents within 8-years. The plan also includes more money for border security and for business owners to check the immigration status of new hires within 4-years. The White House claims it's just a back-up plan just in case Congress doesn't act on the issue. Sen. John McCain wants to know if the President really wants reform or does he just want to beat up on Republicans. Sen. Marco Rubio said the key will be to secure the borders and then deal with the illegal immigration next.

Air Date and Time: 2-22-13 6:30pm

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Business and labor groups have announced they have agreed on a key part of the immigration reform deal. The reform deal that would allow lower skilled workers to come to the U.S. The Chamber of Commerce and the AFL-CIO came to the agreement after weeks of negotiations. In order for the bill to pass, it will have to address border security, supply employer verification, and allow a path to citizenship.

Air Date and Time: 3-28-2013 @ 6:30pm

1:47

The President says an overhaul of the immigration system is just around the corner, and a bi-partisan group of Senators leading the push just visited the border between the U.S. and Mexico on Wednesday. The finally sticking point with immigration reform is securing the border. Four of the 8 Senators in favor of securing the border visited the fence in Nogales, Arizona. They learned that the border patrol agents have plenty of manpower but not enough technology. The Senators even witnessed a border breach first hand on their visit. The border patrol has nearly 22-thousand agents. In an interview with the President, he said that they have improved security, but more can be done, including quicker times immigrants become citizens..

Issue: Health and Wellbeing

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-2-13 @ 6:30pm

:37

Turns out sugar in the form of fructose can trigger brain changes that lead to overeating. But eating glucose can lead the body to feel full. A third of U.S. children and teens are overweight and 2/3 of adults are overweight or obese.

Issue: Health and Wellbeing cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-2-13 @ 6:30pm

5:15

Americans diets are loaded with sugar; some is hidden in our food. In the year 1800, the average American consumed an estimated 18 lbs of sugar per year. In 1900, consumption of sugar jumped to 90 lbs. In 2012, we consume about 150 lbs of sugar per year. All the sugar in our bodies causes the insulin in our bodies to go haywire, which leads to heart disease – the number one killer in America. High Fructose corn syrup or HFCS is the leading cause and is in almost everything we eat. On average of sugar consumed is 22 teaspoons per day, but the American Heart Association recommends 6 teaspoons a day for women, 9 a day for men.

Air Date and Time: 1-3-13 @ 6:30pm

:41

Flu season is in full swing and this year's flu shot doesn't seem to protect people from the virus. According to the CDC, there has been more people with the flu in the last couple of weeks than there was on a during whole last years season. Doctor's say people should still get the flu shot.

:45

The American Medical Journal has a surprise article. It claims that people who are overweight, but not grossly overweight, may live longer than those who are of normal weight. The study in the journal comes from a number of research papers covering more than 3-million people. Some say they live longer because they get better health care.

Air Date and Time: 1-7-13 @ 6:30pm

33

Most Americans know that excess weight can lead to diabetes and heart disease, but many don't know that obesity can cause cancer, arthritis, sleep apnea, and infertility. A third of U.S. children and teens and more than two-thirds of adults are obese or overweight.

:43

The number of obese children has tripled since the 1980's and a number of lifestyle changes can reverse those results. Today, one in five children are obese, and certain to have severe medical problems in the future, such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer. The first lady, Michelle Obama, has her "Let's Move" campaign, but the results are better when the parents are onboard.

Air Date and Time: 1-8-13 @ 6:30pm

1:53

It is one of the worst flu seasons of the decade with 80-percent of the country reporting the flu. The elderly and children are worst at risk. A boy from Michigan has died from the flu making him the latest victim in the 18 children who have died. People who have egg allergies are strongly urged to not get the flu shot since the medicine contains egg products.

7:22

Could coconut oil be the answer for curing incurable diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's? Dr. Mary Newport's husband has Alzheimer's, but started taking coconut oil and weeks later his prognosis improved dramatically. Glucose that is produced in the body feeds cells in the brain and without it the cells die. But an alternate fuel is accepted called ketones. Ketones are accepted in the liver after eating coconut oil. Parkinson's patients are also seeing an improvement in their symptoms, same with ALS patients. The average dose for the average person is 1 to 2 tablespoons a day.

Issue: Health and Wellbeing cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-10-13 @ 6:30pm

:35

Binge drinking is a problem for women and girls. The CDC says 1 in 8 women and 1 in 5 high school girls binge drink. For women that's 4 or more drinks. Binge drinking puts women at a higher rate of having breast cancer and heart disease, STDs and pregnancy.

Air Date and Time: 1-11-13 @ 6:30pm

2:05

The deadly flu season is sweeping across the nation. Twenty-four states and New York are reporting high numbers, but that is down from 29 states last week. Hospitals are overwhelmed and the flu vaccine is in short supply. Pharmacies are also overwhelmed with filling prescriptions for Tamiflu.

2.39

For those who do not want the flu shot, but want to take the natural route, doctors are recommending Naturopathy with healthier lifestyles such as better diet, sleep, limit sugar intake, and get plenty of exercise. Doctors are also recommending vitamins C and D.

Air Date and Time: 1-14-13 @ 6:30pm

:48

This year's flu season is being one of the worst in a decade. People from Oregon to Boston are being affected. 47 states are reporting widespread flu activity. With close to 29-thousand cases confirmed, health officials say those numbers aren't accurate since some people chose not to seek treatment. Some seeking to have the flu vaccination are finding that it is in short supply.

Air Date and Time: 1-28-13 @ 6:30pm

4:02

The winter blue or Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) affects millions of Americans. Their moods are affected by the seasons due to lack of sunshine. SAD causes the body to go into a sort of hibernation which is caused by the lack of Vitamin D that is produced in the body by the exposure to sunlight. With the decrease in sunlight in the winter months it also triggers the production of melatonin that causes us to feel tired. People with SAD tend to crave carbohydrates thus packing on more weight in the winter months. Women are more likely to experience SAD than men, and more prevalent in northern climates. Light therapy is one way to combat the blues; tanning beds are not the right therapy because it emits more UVA rays. Sunlight, Vitamin D, and exercise are the best therapies for combating SAD.

Air Date and Time: 1-29-13 @ 6:30pm

1:01

Cell phone provider, AT&T is issuing a warning about the spread of the flu. The company says cell phones can spread the flu easily. Doctors say people should disinfect their phone regularly, use hands-free headpiece, and don't use in the restroom. And if this flu season isn't enough, the norovirus is also spreading across the U.S. It's a new strain of the virus that originated in Australia. It causes severe stomach pains, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever, and is the most contagious virus out there. Hand sanitizers can't fight the virus and there is currently no vaccine.

Air Date and Time: 1-30-13 @ 6:30pm

4:30

Americans are suffering thru the worst flu season in years. Forty-seven states are reporting in, with thousands dead including 37 children. According to the CDC, the best prevention is the flu shot. The flu shot is about 60-percent effective against this season's outbreak. The FDA just approved a better vaccine match to this year's flu virus. Scientists are working on a vaccine that would prevent all flus. Wash hands for 20 seconds and sanitize most touched surfaces. Getting enough sleep, eat healthier and exercise regularly will also prevent the body's immune system from weakening.

Issue: Health and Wellbeing cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-5-13 @ 6:30pm

4:46

New research shows high-cholesterol is a good thing. Years ago doctors told us to stay away from high fat foods like bacon, butter, cheese, and such. So in response to the warning, we ate more carbs that contain sugar. Experts now say that high-cholesterol didn't make us unhealthy and fat, it was inflammation. Doctors say that we need to avoid foods that cause inflammation like sugar. Dr. Beverly Teter says it was inflammation, not the high-cholesterol that caused the clogging of arteries that lead to heart attacks. Research shows that cholesterol can protect against respiratory and G.I. problems, helps create vitamin D and people live longer. Cholesterol from fat is needed to keep the brain functioning at proper levels. They warn not to consume too many omega-6's and trans fat.

Air Date and Time: 2-21-13 6:30pm

1:00

Nearly 4-thousand objects are left in people who have undergone surgery every year; mostly sponges and gauze that can cause infection are left behind. Now there's a remedy – microchips are being inserted into gauze. A wand that responds to the chip will beep when waved over the area being operated on to insure nothing is left behind.

Air Date and Time: 2-25-13 6:30pm

:28

It appears that the Mediterranean Diet is healthier than a low-fat diet. A new study in the New England Journal of Medicine looks at people who ate foods from the Mediterranean Diet over a period of 8-years and the ones who ate those foods had healthier cardiorespiratory systems than those who were on the low-fat diets.

2:40

CBN's Lorie Johnson says a low-fat diet is actually a high-carb diet, and high-carb diets can lead to inflammation and many doctors say that inflammation is the true cause of heart disease. The keystone for the Mediterranean Diet is olive oil, but never heat olive oil – use at room temperature. The best cooking oil is coconut or to use natural butter.

Air Date and Time: 2-26-13 6:30pm

2:03

Nearly half of all Americans aren't getting enough sleep – either they can't fall asleep or stay asleep. Sleeping pills are one of the most widely prescribed drugs in America. Sleep deprivation signals include difficulty waking up, irritability, grogginess, difficulty concentrating, trying to catch up on sleep on the weekends, and difficulty staying awake during meetings or classes. The first step people usually turn to is sleeping pills, but the drawbacks are the additive, can cause serious side effects, and daytime drowsiness. The real symptoms for sleeplessness could be diet or stress.

Air Date and Time: 3-4-2013 @ 6:30pm

:59

Medical experts say that a baby born with HIV has been cured. The mother and child were being treated for HIV at the Jackson Medical Center in Mississippi. Doctors prescribed 3 different medications to fight the disease, but then lost track of the 2 for about a year. The mother then came back where doctors found out that she had stopped giving the child the meds, but the child, now 2 and a half, remained healthy. It appears that early intervention appears to have knocked the virus out of the baby's blood. If the child remains healthy, it will mark only the 2nd only person cured.

Issue: Judicial

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-9-13 @ 6:30pm

1:00

The Supreme Court ruled last year that ObamaCare is constitutional, but it's facing a growing number of challenges. The contraceptive mandate has the Christian business community seeking injunctions because it goes against religious beliefs. The Chief Counsel for American Civil Liberties, Jay Sekulow the Supreme Court will ultimately make the decision.

Air Date and Time: 1-16-13 @ 6:30pm

:35

The Department of Health and Human Service is appealing a judge's order that temporarily blocks the ObamaCare mandate for Christian publishing company, Tyndale House. A Federal district judge ruled in November that Tyndale House does not have to provide insurance coverage for certain kinds of contraceptives. But Tyndale House does provide some, but not for Plan B. HHS wants the injunction lifted.

Air Date and Time: 3-1-2013 @ 6:30pm

1:38

The fight for gay marriage is headed to the Supreme Court this month. Ahead of that, the President and some lawmakers are speaking out in support for it. The President has filed a Friend of the Court document with the California Supreme Court that they overturn the ban on gay marriage. The high court will hear 2 cases next month, Prop 8 and the Defense of Marriage Act. The ruling is expected at the end of June.

Air Date and Time: 3-8-2013 @ 6:30pm

3:15

CBN News Terrorism Analyst Erick Stakelbeck says that President Obama has decided to try terror suspects in federal court because he thinks terrorism is a criminal offense, not a war crime. Others think the enemy combatants should be tried by military tribunals, which is what Stakelbeck says they are, not common criminals as the President believes. It also makes these federal courts a target for terrorists. Stakelbeck believes that the President came into his first term with grandiose ideas about how he wanted to close Guantanamo Bay prison and do away with many of the Bush tactics on terror, but he's using even more tactics with the use of drone strikes. If Abu Ghaith is convicted, he would be placed in a federal prison. But after all of the hate speech from Morsi, Obama and Hillary Clinton both thanked and praised him for his diplomacy and "pragmatic confidence".

:37

Former President Bill Clinton says the Supreme Court should overturn the Defense of Marriage Act, called DOMA. Clinton signed that into law in 1996 saying that marriage is between 1 man and 1 woman. That means that a state that makes gay marriage illegal doesn't have to recognize it from another state. That also means that gay couples do not receive federal benefits. Clinton now says his own law is unconstitutional.

Air Date and Time: 3-18-13 @ 6:30pm

1:33

The Supreme Court is set to decide on whether to allow states the right to make voters prove they are U.S. Citizens to be able to register to vote. Arizona's Attorney General, Tom Horne says states have a right to know if people are really eligible to vote, meaning they are citizens of the U.S. If the new law passes for Arizona, then 12 other states will be following suit.

Issue: Judicial cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-21-2013 @ 6:30pm

3:01

The Supreme Court takes up the issue of same sex marriage next week with 2 cases. The panel could radically change the culture in America, which could have a bigger impact than the Roe v. Wade decision. The cases to be heard are whether or not California residents have the right to keep gay marriage illegal and should the federal government be able to define marriage as between a man and a woman. If the court says “no” then it would please the gay community, but it would have significant impact on what marriage is all about. Critics argue that gay marriage ignores the well-being of children and focuses on the desires of the adults, and what is needed is the Supreme Court to keep it’s hands off the fundamental truth of marriage – that it is a union between a man and woman.

Air Date and Time: 3-26-2013 @ 6:30pm

3:54

The Supreme Court began their deliberations today on the issue of same sex marriage. The justices took up the debate on California’s Proposition 8, which is the 2008 voter approved ballot measure that defines marriage as being between a man and a woman and in affect, bans gay marriage. A decision for traditional marriage returns the decision to the people. Opponents and proponents of gay marriage stood outside the Supreme Court building. The pastor who pushed for Prop-8 says it’s all about pushing for the liberal agenda. Other conservatives, like Ryan Anderson, co-author of the book “What is Marriage?”, argues that marriages are already in trouble in this nation and says that changing the definition would make it’s long decline, worse.

Air Date and Time: 3-27-2013 6:30pm

2:02

For the 2nd time in 2 days, the Supreme Court has heard arguments on a case that could change the government’s definition of marriage. Tuesday’s session took up the issue of tradition marriage that voters in California approved with the passing of Proposal 8. Today the high court dealt with the Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA, that was passed by Congress 17 years ago. Marriage matters in more than 11-hundred federal laws in regards to estate taxes, social security survivor benefits, and health benefits for federal employees. DOMA is defended by House Republicans. Meanwhile, proponents and opponents from all over met in Washington to show their support or opposition to DOMA. Those in support of traditional marriage held prayer vigils, while those in support of gay marriage just showed up in support.

2:57

Maggie Gallagher, a fellow with the American Principles Project and a blogger, says there doesn’t seem to be a stomach for a sweeping decision for gay marriage in all 50 states. Gallagher says the high court judges might not feel as though the federal government has the right to define marriage as 1 man and 1 woman. This is an important crossroads in time for this country, she says, but with more than half of Americans believe in the traditional marriage and if the government knocks off the meaning of tradition marriage from our society, we would be going into uncharted water and the possibility of being knocked over a cliff. Marriage is about children being known and loved by 2 halves of a whole so to speak.

Issue: Judicial cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-28-2013 @ 6:30pm

3:33

The Supreme Court is not likely to rule on the gay marriage cases until June, but those rulings are not likely to end the debate and the deep divide over the future of traditional marriage and the family in America. Thirty states have banned same-sex marriage, while 9 states including the District of Columbia allows it. The 1996 law determines that the definition of marriage according to the federal government is a union between a man and a woman as husband and wife. But 83-year old Edith Windsor wants the high court to strike that down. Windsor was angry with the government when she had to pay estate taxes after her partner of 44-years died; something that a heterosexual couple would not have to pay. Windsor calls the word marriage, a “magic” word. While some states recognize gay marriage, the federal government and DOMA does not and that can be important because it is responsible for 11-hundred federal laws, taxes, and health benefits. If the high court strikes down Prop-8, it will have a deep impact on the state of traditional marriage and family in this country. Some say it’s important to bridge the gap despite the divide. The court may even sidestep a ruling based on standing – a legal technicality.

Issue: Women in the Military

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-24-13 @ 6:30pm

2:08

The Joint Chiefs of Staff made the decision to lift the military’s ban on women serving in combat. U.S. Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta met with other chief of staff members to explain why he’s lifted the 1995 ban on women in combat. He says if women can meet the job goals, then they should have the right to serve. It’ll be the first time in history that women will be fully integrated. Opponents to the decision say it could lead to tension between the male and female troops, and that women can’t preform as well as a man with daunting tasks. But Panetta says both men and women are fighting and dying together so why not let them be on the front lines together. Women make up 14-percent of combat military.

Air Date and Time: 2-25-13 6:30pm

:36

The door has been open for women to be drafted into military service. But now that the laws have changed allowing women to serve, and the advancement in weapons and body protection that is available, the selective service for women could be implemented.

Air Date and Time: 2-27-13 6:30pm

5:26

The Pentagon is going on with its plans to put women into military combat units. Some consider it a victory for equal rights, while others say it will hurt our nation’s ability to fight. America women have served with distinction in our military particularly in the war on terrorism in the Middle East. In one of his last acts as Defense Secretary, Leon Panetta opened the door to women serving in previously held men’s positions, even the Army Rangers and Navy Seals. Former Army Captain, Tanya Domi says “America once again reaffirms its core values of equality and respect. It’s good for our military and our country, too.” But former General Jerry Boykin can’t disagree more. Boykin’s was one of the founding members of Delta Force and lead commander. But if a woman wants to serve in a Special Forces team, then she must be able to do what her male counterparts are required to do, such as the physical requirements. Boykin says that allowing women to serve in combat situations is inconsistent with protecting women against violence. He also says that the Bible clearly designs men to be the stronger sex and to protect women, the weaker sex.

Issue: Morals/Family Structure

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-24-13 @ 6:30pm

2:17
According to divorce lawyers, Facebook is becoming the reason for so many divorces. Now the social media giant is opening up to include younger generations. With more than a billion users, it is becoming the reason for marital separation and divorce. Nearly all divorce cases last year contained the word “Facebook”. The children are the next to be targeted by Facebook.

Air Date and Time: 1-29-13 @ 6:30pm

:30
The Boy Scouts of America may soon lift its ban on gay troop leaders and scouts. This does not sit well with many religious groups. Fred Luter, President of the Southern Baptist Convention stated that “if that is what the leadership is doing, then (he) thinks it will be a sad day in the life of the Boy Scouts of America. Seeing what I thought this organization stood on Biblical principles about to give in to political correctness is very disappointing.” A vote on the bill is expected next week.

Air Date and Time: 2-4-13 @ 6:30pm

:55
The President says gays should be allowed in the Boy Scouts of America. Last week the group announced that it would lift its ban on gay scouts. The proposal to open up its ranks will be discussed at a gathering in Texas. Some church groups expressed alarm at the annual Scouts Sunday.

Air Date and Time: 2-5-13 @ 6:30pm

2:26
The ban on gays in the Boy Scouts of America look like it will be lifted. A vote tomorrow will most likely lift the ban. But what will happen to the organization? Most churches support the boy scouts units with 69-percent of all units are chartered to faith-based organizations. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is the strongest supporter of the scouts, followed by the United Methodist Church, the Catholic Church, and Baptist churches. Lifting the ban would jeopardize faith-based troops. The Boy Scout currently have about 3-million members.

1:22
President of Family Research Council and father to 2 boy scouts, Rob Schwarzwald says if maintains his membership with the group, it could send the wrong message to his sons. He says the whole moral consistency falls apart. He says that it's not that Christians hate gays, it's goes against morality and God's plan that a man is for a woman, not another man.

Air Date and Time: 2-6-13 @ 6:30pm

1:08
The Boy Scouts of America has postponed a decision to allow gays into their ranks as leaders and scouts. The executive board said they needed more time to deliberate before voting on the matter. Earlier this week, the group received more than a million petitions protesting the policy that would ban gays in the scout ranks.

2:56
Bishop Harry Jackson of Hope Christian Church says he strongly recommends that the scouts stick to it policies that they were founded on. The Bishop says if the organization stands strong, they will still have the many people, churches, businesses, and organizations that will back them financially. He also says that if the Boy Scouts vote lifting the ban on gays, then they will see they will lose the support of the black and Hispanic communities; 69-percent of the support of the scouts is from churches.

Issue: Morals/Family Structure cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-19-13 6:30pm

2:50

Melissa Henson is the Director of Communication and Public Education for the Parents Television Council. She says that there is substantial evidence that violence in video games and on TV has a deep impact on young children in their brains. Seeing violence shuts down the part of their brain that controls self-control and responsibility, and excites the area in the brain involved in the fight or flight impulse. Parents need to have more involvement in what their kids do, see, and experience.

Issue: Tea Party Movement

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-6-13 @ 6:30pm

3:49

A couple of years ago the Tea Party was the most powerful force in politics, now some political analysts are asking, “Is it dead?” CNN declared the end to the Tea Party movement after the elections this past year. The Washington Post posted that the party will be nothing more than a memory. Polls show that in 2010, 24-percent of people claim to be Tea Party members, while in 2012, only 8-percent claim to be Tea Party members. Tea Party members see themselves as freedom warriors with a 4-part strategy: rebrand, retool, recruit, and re-engage.

Issue: Religion

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 1-8-13 @ 6:30pm

4:37

Christians are the most persecuted group around the world. Open Doors USA says in at least 60 countries Christians face interrogations, arrest, and even death. Christians in Africa suffer most in Mali at the top, then Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Niger and Ethiopia. North Korea is the top offender, followed by Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia. In those countries, extreme Islam poses the biggest threat to Christians, viewing Christianity as Western and trying to “scrub out” anything Western, says Ron Boyd-Macmillan with Open Doors International. He also says that Syria is joining the ranks of persecution.

Air Date and Time: 1-24-13 @ 6:30pm

:33

Pope Benedict is urging the Catholic Church embrace social media and connect with the younger generation. In one of his sermons, he says to not run from engaging the young people by embracing where they are at – on social media sites like Twitter and Facebook. The Pope has over a million followers on Twitter.

Air Date and Time: 2-11-13 @ 6:30pm

2:02

Pope Benedict the 16th resigned, making history as the first pope to resign in six centuries. It came as a shock to the more than 6-billion Catholics around the world. The Pope is 85-years-old, and Vatican stressed he is slowing down. In a statement by the Pope, he says that he has “come to the certainty that (his) strengths due to an advanced age are no longer suited to an adequate exercise of the Petrine Ministry.” Critics say that he wasn’t progressive enough. The Vatican will hold a conclave before Easter to choose a new pope.

Issue: Religion cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-11-13 @ 6:30pm

2:44

Regent university's Dr. Corne Bekker weighed in on the Pope resigning and the appointment of a new one. He says the idea of the resignation of the Pope wasn't introduced back in the church until the 1930's. The College of Cardinals can choose the new Pope from all countries and not just from Europe anymore. Bekker says he believes the new Pope will be from Ghana in Africa. He also commented on the current Pope's legacy, which he says is his theology.

Air Date and Time: 2-13-13 @ 6:30pm

1:55

Catholics across the globe are guessing who the College of Cardinals will chose to replace Pope Benedict the 16th. Some want to see someone younger take over as leader. Contenders for the position include Cardinal Angelo Scola, 71, from Italy, Cardinal Mark Ouellet, 68, of Canada, and Cardinal Peter Turkson, 64, of Ghana. Arguments for the appointment of a pope from the global south are expected since more than half of all Catholics come from there. Longshot contender, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, 63, from New York is very popular, but being from a world super power could hurt his chances. Other names are emerging as well for other countries.

Air Date and Time: 2-14-13 @ 6:30pm

:36

Congress is calling on the Sec. of State John Kerry to seek the immediate release of Pastor Saeed Abedini from an Iranian prison. American-born Saeed was arrested for his faith and preaching the gospel and sentenced to 8 years in prison. A bi-partisan letter was sent to Kerry to exhaust all efforts to extract the pastor from prison.

Air Date and Time: 2-21-13 @ 6:30pm

:46

The trial of the Irani-American pastor began today in Iran. Saeed Abudini was arrested for preaching the Word of God and establishing house church groups to undermine the Iranian government. But despite the reports from the Associated Press claiming that Saeed will be released on bail, the ACFJ says the Iranian court hasn't accepted bail. The pastor could face the death penalty.

Air Date and Time: 2-22-13 6:30pm

50

The American-Iranian pastor imprisoned in Iran for his faith in Jesus has now released a letter detailing his abuse. In a letter to his family, Saeed Abedini says he is facing extreme pressures in prison with abuse and spiritual warfare. He says conditions in the prison are torturous. Prison officials, says Saeed, "are only waiting for one thing – for me to deny Christ- but they will never get this from me." The ACJL filed a petition last week for the Justice Department to get involved.

Air Date and Time: 2-25-13 6:30pm

:32

The Pope is changing some rules for a quick transfer for the new Pope to come aboard. Just in time for Holy Week. The Pope changed the time for the election of the Pope to immediately begin after the conclave of cardinals vote to accept immediately after Pope Benedict's resignation. But the deal is that all the cardinals must arrive 15 days before the new pope's transition. Pope Benedict hopes that the transition is completed by March 17th.

Issue: Religion cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-27-13 6:30pm

2:30

Pope Benedict bids farewell to the faithful. Tens of thousands gathered in the Papal Square to hear the Pope speak on the eve of his resignation. The 85-year old Pontiff reminded Catholics around the world to remain faithful to God's Word. The Pope arrived in his Pope-mobile, took the stage as the thousands gave him a standing ovation. The resignation of the spiritual leader of some 1.2-billion Christian Catholics officially takes place tomorrow. Speculation surrounds the Pope's resignation, but most believe that it has to do with his age and not the sexual abuse scandal that has surrounded the church. Pope Benedict is the first pope to resign in 600 years.

3:00

Maureen Ferguson with the Catholic Association says the Pope's resignation was motivated by love for the church and shows his humility. The Pope leaves a legacy of always pointing to God first. He wrote 3 books on Jesus of Nazareth and reminded people of the daily calling of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In the end, it is not about the man, the pope, but of Jesus our Lord. The Pope says he will finish out his ministry in a life of prayer. Pope Benedict carried on the same legacy as Pope John II, but not as much charisma, and took on the abuse scandal head on and integrated better child protection statues and policies.

Air Date and Time: 2-28-13 6:30pm

:54

Pope Benedict the 16th begins his historic retirement today. For his last day, the Pope met with his Cardinals pledging his loyalty to the new pope, whomever they choose to succeed him. The Pope will travel to a papal retreat outside of Rome and then returning to the Vatican to live out his days in a convent home at the Vatican. Benedict's legacy will be known as one of a teacher.

Air Date and Time: 3-1-2013 @ 6:30pm

:24

Roman Catholic Cardinals take the first step in electing a new pope. Pope Benedict III retired last week, the first to resign in 600 years. They will announce the Conclave soon, which is the closed, secret voting session of the Cardinals held in the Sistine Chapel.

Air Date and Time: 3-11-13 @ 6:30pm

1:57

Catholic cardinals from all over the world are in Rome at the Vatican for the conclave to elect a new pope. The doors to the Sistine Chapel will close tomorrow for the election process to begin. There is no clear front-runner, but the same names keep coming up. Italy has the largest group of electors.

Air Date and Time: 3-13-13 @ 6:30pm

2:14

Black smoke rises from the Sistine Chapel signaling the 1st vote for the appointment of a new pope. The black smoke means that the Cardinals will come back tomorrow. White smoke signals a new pope has been chosen. The Cardinals don't campaign nor do they argue; they simply just vote – 2 votes in the morning, 2 votes in the evening. The one with 2/3's of the votes becomes the new pope. Catholic are not concerned with who will be elected, but what the new leader will bring. Nearly 5-thousand accredited journalists have come to Rome to cover the election.

3:21

Thomas Peters with Catholicvote.org estimates that a vote will take 3 to 4 days. Peters says that even with his studies on each contenders, he still can't make a prediction on who will ultimately be chosen. He says that he feels Catholics should continue to pray for the right decision and to rely on the Lord's leading. American Catholics, Peters says, will carry on the tradition that Pope Benedict supported.

Issue: Religion cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-13-13 @ 6:30pm

:31

As Cardinals gather in Rome to elect the new pope, Catholics here in America are split on the direction they want the next leader to take. A poll conducted shows that 51-percent want the new pope to maintain the tradition positions of the faith, while 46-percent want a new direction. For example: 54-percent say they want the priests to be able to marry, while 54-percent polled believe the church should support same-sex marriage.

2:29

Although there has never been an American pope, there are a few who have been named in the list of contenders. Some say that Cardinal Archbishop Timothy Dolan hasn't a shot at the position, but others say the passionate Dolan has a running chance. The Archbishop is known for his friendly, jovial nature. An Italian newspaper is calling him the "shadow candidate". Dolan is not only a "rockstar", but a staunch conservative.

Air Date and Time: 3-13-13 @ 6:30pm

1:00

The 266th Pope will be known as Pope Francis. The Conclave of Cardinal voted this evening after only 2 days. Argentina's Cardinal, Jorge Bergoglio is the first ever from the Americas to be elected. Tens of thousands of people gathered in the square to celebrate as the white smoke billowed out of the top of St. Peter's Chapel. It took 5 rounds of voting with no front-runner, but was the fastest vote in years. Pope Francis will now serve the world's 1.2-billion Catholics.

2:22

Regent University's Dr. Corne Bekker says that the new pope that was chosen will re-energize the Catholic populace in Hispanic community by enlarge such half of all Catholics live in South America. Some are surprised that they chose the 76-year old instead of someone younger, but there has been talk about reducing tenure. About Pope Francis, he has been known as the "reformer" in the church circle as a thinker and a doer.

Air Date and Time: 3-15-13 @ 6:30pm

1:17

A wife's passion plea for imprisoned husband's safety brings tears to a packed hearing on Capitol Hill and a strong rebuke of the Obama Administration. Nagmeh Abedini is asking Congress to put pressure on the State Department and the Obama Administration to help with the release of Christian Pastor, Saeed Abedini from an Iranian prison. The Iranian regime arrested Saeed last July during a trip to build an orphanage. She says that Saeed is a U.S. citizen and has been beaten in prison and has internal bleeding from the abuse.

Air Date and Time: 3-18-13 @ 6:30pm

1:33

Pope Francis officially becomes leader to the 1.2-billion Catholics around the world on Tuesday. Vice-President Joe Biden and other officials are flying in for the ceremony. The new Pope is displaying sympathy for the common people. Since the first 4 days Francis was voted in, Francis has established himself as the "people's pope." A crowd of more than 150-thousand gathered at St. Peters as he gave his first sermon on Sunday.

Air Date and Time: 3-22-2013 @ 6:30pm

:31

Imprisoned Pastor Saeed Abedini has been able to get a letter to his family. He is serving 8 years in an Iranian prison for his faith and preaching of the Gospel. The letter is written in the margins of newspaper scraps and describes abuse and torture and his concern for his wife and kids in America. The ACLJ is asking Sec. of State John Kerry to put pressure on the Iranian government to secure his release.

Issue: Religion cont.

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 3-25-2013 @ 6:30pm

:52

Sec. of State John Kerry is calling on Iran to release American Pastor Saeed Abedini. Kerry is deeply concerned for Saeed's fate, and is concerned about the abuse he is suffering. The American Center for Law and Justice says that this is a game-changer and one of the first pro-active moves made by the State Dept. since July.

Air Date and Time: 3-28-2013 @ 6:30pm

:30

Easter is the newest victim in the war for political correctness. Schools in Long Island, NY are banning the word "Easter" from being used; they are substituting it with "spring", such as Spring Break, spring bunny, and spring eggs. In Alabama, an elementary school is calling the Easter egg hunt, the "academic egg hunt". The principal says it's all in the spirit of religious diversity.

Issue: Terrorism

Program: CBN Newswatch

Air Date and Time: 2-6-13 @ 6:30pm

1:09

Congress is looking for a way to limit America's deadly use of drone strikes. The Senate Foreign relations Committee will likely hold hearings on the country's policy after a report exposing how much lethal force the Obama Administration can use against terrorists, even if they are American citizens. The American Justice Department says Americans can now be killed for ties to al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations, and the government doesn't have to have clear evidence. Now the Administration is coming under fire.

Air Date and Time: 2-8-13 @ 6:30pm

2:19

Floyd Corkin opened fire at the Family Research Council office all because they opposed gay marriage. Corkin plead guilty to the attack that wounded one. He pled guilty to interstate transportation of a firearm and ammunition, assault with intent to kill while armed, and act of terrorism while armed. He admitted he planned to kill as many people as possible and smear Chick-fil-A sandwiches in the faces of the victims. Corkin said he targeted the FRC because of their stance on gay rights. The FRC has been labeled on the Southern Poverty Law Center's website as a hate group, which is where Corkin found the information and planned the attack. His sentencing is scheduled for April 29th.

Air Date and Time: 2-11-13 @ 6:30pm

1:02

Meanwhile, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle say the President's use of drones to take out U.S. citizens who are involved with terrorist organizations overseas needs to be closer looked into. The question being asked is "does the President have the power to make the decision to take the life of an American?" Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee says the decision is unconstitutional – taking away the checks and balances that were put into place for government to follow.